IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 70, 79, and 82 to the following:

70. An apparatus for ablating body tissue using radio frequency (RF) energy, comprising:

a catheter having a proximal portion attachable to a source of electrolyte fluid, a distal portion sized for insertion into a patient's body, and a lumen for delivering fluid from the proximal portion to the distal portion;

an expandable member disposed on the distal portion of the catheter, the expandable member defining an interior region in communication with the lumen; and

an RF electrode on the distal portion and communicating with the lumen, the electrode configured for coupling to a source of RF energy, whereby RF energy may be transferred from the electrode to selected tissue areas in a patient's body via electrolyte fluid delivered through the lumen and into the interior region of the expandable member.

79. A method for ablating body tissue, comprising:

inserting a distal portion of a tubular member into the patient's body, the distal portion comprising an expandable member in a collapsed condition and an electrode within an interior space of the expandable member;

positioning the distal portion of the tubular member proximate a target site;

directing electrolyte fluid through the lumen of the tubular member and into the interior space of the expandable member; and

energizing the electrode with electrical energy, thereby transferring electrical energy from the electrode through the expandable member via the electrolyte fluid to ablate the target site.

82. An apparatus for ablating body tissue using radio frequency (RF) energy, comprising:

a source of RF energy;

a catheter having a proximal portion attachable to a source of electrolyte fluid, a distal portion sized for insertion into a patient's body, and a lumen for delivering fluid from the proximal portion to the distal portion;

a porous member attached to the distal portion of the catheter, the porous member defining an interior region in communication with the lumen, the interior region capable of receiving electrolyte fluid delivered from the proximal portion of the catheter; and

an electrode disposed in the interior region and coupled to the source of RF energy.